

What is claimed is:

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1. A stand-alone monitor having an interface comprising:
a storage medium reader that reads a digital image stored on a storage medium;
a controller that processes and transfers the read digital image for display on a
display screen of the stand-alone monitor; and
a user-interface operable to enable issuing a command to the controller to control
the reading and display of the digital image on the display screen.
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2. The monitor of Claim 1, wherein the digital image is read by the storage
medium reader and transferred to an image buffer of the stand-alone monitor for
storage and for display on the display screen.
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3. The monitor of Claim 2, wherein at least the controller or the image buffer
is also used to perform a task, unrelated to the interface, within the stand-alone monitor.
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4. The monitor of Claim 1, wherein the controller processes the read digital
image into a format that is compatible with the signal input of the display.
5. The monitor of Claim 1, wherein the user-interface enables the user to
manipulate at least the image displayed or the data stored on the storage medium.

6. The monitor of Claim 5, wherein the user-interface enables the user to perform at least one of following manipulations of the image: deleting or protecting the data stored on the storage medium, or sequencing the display of multiple images, or resizing the image, or rotating the image, or mirroring the image, or displaying textual information about the image, or displaying a thumbnail view of the image.

7. The monitor of Claim 6, wherein the at least one manipulation is performed via on-screen menu selection through the user-interface.

8. The monitor of Claim 1, wherein the display screen for displaying the digital image is selected from the group consisting of a cathode-ray tube display (CRT), a digital CRT, a liquid crystal display (LCD), a TV, a projection device, and an electroluminescent display (ELD).

9. The monitor of Claim 1, wherein the storage medium is selected from the group consisting of smart media, compact flash memory, mini-disc, zip disc, memory stick, PCMCIA (Personal Computer Memory Card International Association) card, compact disk (CD), recordable CD (CD-R), rewritable CD (CD-RW), digital versatile disk (DVD) and HDD.

10. The monitor of Claim 1, wherein the storage medium reader is capable of reading two or more different storage media types.

11. A stand-alone monitor having an interface comprising:

a wireless communications port that wirelessly communicates with a wireless image source via a common method and protocol to receive a digital image transmitted by the wireless image source to the interface; and

5 a controller that processes and transfers the received digital image for display on a display screen of the stand-alone monitor.

12. The monitor of Claim 11, further comprising:

10 a user-interface enabling a user to issue a command to the controller to control the receipt and display of the digital image on the display screen.

13. The monitor of Claim 11, wherein the wireless communication port communicates with the wireless image source using an infrared (IR) signal as the common method and protocol.

14. The monitor of Claim 11, wherein the wireless communication port communicates with the wireless image source using a radio frequency (RF) signal as the common method an protocol.

15. The monitor of Claim 11, wherein the wireless image source is selected from the group consisting of a digital camera, a scanner, a laptop computer and a camcorder.

16. The monitor of Claim 11, further comprising a remote control device for wirelessly communicating with the wireless communication port to issue a command to the controller for control of receipt and display of the digital image on the display screen.

5 17. The monitor of Claim 11, wherein the interface is located in an enclosure separate from the stand-alone monitor and communicates with the stand-alone monitor to display and manipulate an image via a cable.

10 18. The monitor of Claim 17, wherein the interface also communicates with a PC via a second cable, said interface being operative to forward a video signal from the PC to the monitor in a PC mode and to forward the video signal from the interface to the monitor in an interface mode.

15 19. An interface for a stand-alone monitor comprising:
a storage medium reader that reads a digital image stored on a storage medium;
a wireless communications port that wirelessly communicates with a remote control device via a common method and protocol to receive a command transmitted by the remote control device to the interface;
a receiver operable to receive the command from the wireless communications
20 port;
a decoder that decodes the command supplied by the receiver; and
a controller that processes and executes the decoded command, and processes and transfers the read digital image for display on a display screen of the stand-alone monitor.

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